



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

April 6, 2018

The Honorable Dr. Joaquin Arambula
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
State Capitol,
Sacramento, 95814

Re: Restore CalWORKs Single Allocation Funding

Dear Chairman Arambula:

The County of San Bernardino requests your support for the CalWORKs program by restoring the \$56.5 million that is proposed to be cut from the Single Allocation in 2018-19. If adopted, this reduction would be on top of the \$140 million reduction to the Single Allocation that counties have already experienced in the current year and another \$156 million reduction in the prior year, resulting in a 17.4 percent reduction over a three-year period.

Due to Single Allocation reductions, San Bernardino County has already reduced Eligibility and Employment Services staff through attrition. Additionally, Vocational Education and Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) contracts have been reduced and Job Retention Services have been eliminated. With another Single Allocation reduction of \$4.4 million for San Bernardino County, it is anticipated that there will be further reductions to Eligibility and Employment Services staff as well as Vocational Education and ESE contracts.

A \$56.5 million reduction to the Single Allocation in 2018-19 will leave San Bernardino County unprepared for the next recession which will inevitably occur in the near future. It is imprudent to erode the basic minimal infrastructure crucial for meeting what we know will be a sharp increase in the need for CalWORKs. The Legislature and the Governor are prudently planning for that recession with the state's reserves but would almost guarantee significant disruption and delay in the availability of this core safety net program to curtail child poverty when the next recession occurs.

In addition to the programmatic destabilization that a \$56.5 million cut would yield, it will also hinder San Bernardino County's ability to implement the profound service reforms that are currently underway. This cut will further degrade services at the same time that the Legislature adopted the California Outcomes and Accountability Review (Cal-OAR) to establish and improve outcomes in the CalWORKs program.

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CalWORKs Single Allocation Funding

April 6, 2018

PAGE 2 of 2

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino urges you to please support the restoration of \$56.5 million for the CalWORKs Single Allocation. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Lovingood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent than the last name "Lovingood".

Robert A. Lovingood
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No.1
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation